

WITHIN OUR BORDERS

VOL. 2

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No. 5

Alberta's Road Program Sets New Record

Good Weather Will Allow Completion of a \$13,000,000 Program

Alberta's 1949-50 highway construction and surfacing program, approximately a \$13,000,000 appropriation, is expanding and improving the Province's system of main roads. It is the biggest program in the history of the Province.

Since April 1, more than 144 projects have been started and the following have been completed:

- 22 grading projects.
- 34 gravelling projects.
- 30 asphalt and allied projects.

If fine weather conditions prevail, the entire program for the current season likely will be completed this fall.

The following has been provided by this year's program:

- 548 miles of grading, some of this total is regrading.
- 448 miles of first course gravel surfacing. This is the placing of crushed gravel on new grading.
- 146 miles of replacement gravel surfacing.
- 26 miles of surface treatment.
- 101 miles of stabilized base course for asphalt surface course.
- 144 miles of asphalt hot plant mix surface course.
- 208 miles of chip seal coat.

Road improvements in recent years have made it possible for motorists to drive over hard-surfaced roads from Coutts, at the United States Border, to Clyde Corner, 40 miles north of Edmonton, a distance of 428 miles. Another feature of the Alberta highway system is the fact that motorists can travel from the south boundary to the north boundary without making ferry-crossings. It is possible also to get to the Alaska highway without using a ferry.

Another improvement is the painting of white centre strips on hard surfaced highways. About 350 miles of this painting has been done this year.

Four-lane highways now are being constructed from Nisku to Edmonton, and from Edmonton west through Jasper Place.

In addition to these improvements, alignment on many roads is being straightened, curves flattened, and grades eased.

Following is the classification of Alberta Highways and Roads.

	Earth	Graded	Gravelled	Asphalt	Total
Main Highways.....	173.65	27.18	2,098.66	689.82	2,989.31
Secondary Highways	160.87	30.30	1,569.36	2.57	1,763.10
District and Local Roads	40,995.00	20,606.00	9,469.00		77,070.00
	41,329.52	26,663.48	13,137.02	692.39	81,822.41

There are many difficulties encountered by the construction engineers during road programs. Here are some of them:

- Muskeg.
- Rock cuts.
- Heavy fills.
- Floods and ice on rivers.
- High river banks.
- Frost boils heaving the road.
- Long periods of rainy weather.

Following are some of the problems presented when gravelling:

- Hard rock in gravel, excessive sand, and others.
- Lack of suitable gravel in some localities.
- Long hauls are necessary, sometimes train hauls.
- Shortage of suitable gravel for road surfacing.
- Depth of gravel in many pits.

In asphalt surfacing the same problems occur as in gravelling with the following additions:

- Drainage of water away from the grade.
- Dry weather is required during surfacing operations.
- Frost boils heaving the road.

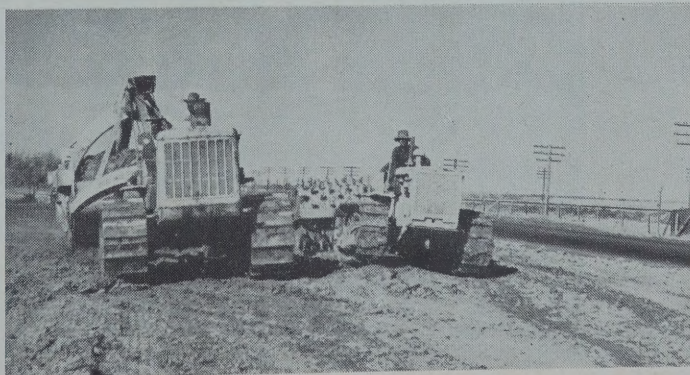
In addition to the record construction and surfacing program for the year the Department of Public Works is conducting a \$1,500,000 maintenance program. This appropriation covers the repair and maintenance of all main and secondary highways whether they are asphalt, gravel or earth.

A major project of the maintenance branch this year is the replacing of highway signs. The Province is changing to the standard American illuminated type of sign. This is being adopted throughout Canada. These signs are diamond-shaped, larger, and feature paint that makes them visible for night driving when illuminated by headlight beams.

In addition to the mentioned programs the Department administers grants to municipal districts for market and school van roads. It is expected about \$1,800,000 will be spent on this work. Grants are now allotted on the formula basis after consideration has been given to population, area of the district concerned, as well as the nature and type of country in which the district is located. * * *

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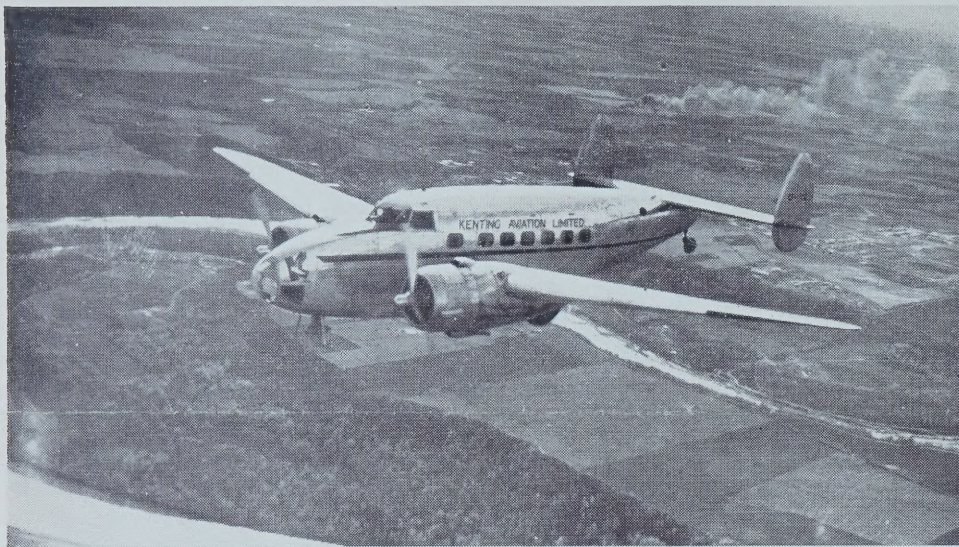
Working on the Nisku-Edmonton four-lane highway.
Alberta Government Photograph—Ross.



"Within Our Borders" is a publication designed to acquaint the people of the Province with the administration and services of the Alberta Government.

It is believed the many and varied services of the Government will be effective in the degree they are known and used. Any material used is for immediate republication.

Correspondence concerning the publication should be addressed to the Deputy Minister, Department of Economic Affairs, Legislative Buildings, Edmonton.



One of the survey planes over the town of Devon and the Leduc oilfield.



Camera Operator Sherman Keeley wears oxygen mask for high altitude flying.

Aerial Photographic Survey Will Cover Entire Province

An aerial photographic survey of Alberta's 255,000 square mile area now is underway. When the job is finished in about 3½ years, the Province's mapping service will be equal to any similar service in the dominion.

The survey is being done by Photographic Survey Corporation Limited of Toronto and Photographic Surveys (Western) Limited, Vancouver. The flying is by an associate company, Kenting Aviation, of Oshawa.

Although Alberta is a young province she is already well known for her wealth of natural resources. There still remains, however, a great amount of exploration work to be done within our borders. About half of the Province still must be surveyed and properly mapped. It would take ground-slogging engineers upwards of 50 years to do the work that at present is undone. The aerial photographic survey will give the Province the required service in a few years.

Great Value to Province

There are two parts to the survey, firstly, photographing the entire Province and preparing base maps at the scale of one inch to the mile. Approximately 185,000 square miles will be mapped now. The remainder has been done by the Dominion government. The second portion of the program is a photographic survey of Alberta's 95,000 square miles of forested areas. The first job will be photographed from high altitude flying, between 22,000 and 27,000 feet. The forestry photographic work will be shot from a height of about 9,000 or 10,000 feet.

The survey will be of tremendous value to the Province. From the forestry survey a comprehensive inventory of Alberta's forest will be compiled. Interpretation of the photographs will reveal outcroppings of rocks. This will aid geologists in planning future mineral searches. The maps prepared from the photographs, will indicate roads, rivers, lakes, hills, settlements, and other factors.

Aid Oil Search First

Approximately 50,000 square miles of Alberta has been photographed since the job began August 29. That means 10,000 film exposures have been shot. Three aircraft being used on the survey are based at Edmonton operating over an area north, west and south. The Whitecourt-Athabasca district was worked first because the greatest amount of industrial interest is there at the present time. That is where oil exploration is centered. Other districts that have been partially worked are Grande Prairie, Tete Jaune, and Red Deer-Edmonton.

Here is an example of how the survey operation is conducted. The Whitecourt-Athabasca district is about 150 miles wide and 120 miles long. All flying is done in an east and west direction. Each morning the crews have a briefing with the weather office in Edmonton and decide what areas to cover. The district is divided into flying strips stretching across the area. Each plane covers three or four strips in a day.

Films Developed Quickly

At the end of a day's flying the crews return to Edmonton and the films are air expressed to Toronto where they are developed. If any of the film is faulty then a retake is shot immediately. At the Toronto factory the prints are transcribed into planimetric maps.

The camera, handled by a camera operator, is installed in the floor of the plane and takes a picture every two and one-half miles. Each picture at high altitude flying covers about 25 square miles, therefore there is a 60 percent overlap in each picture. The capacity of the film magazine is 200 exposures.

When the aerial photographic survey is completed the Province will possess 120,000 prints. From the photographs maps covering about 400 square miles will be made giving the Province about 625 maps.

When the shadows become too long for proper interpretation of the photographs, or as soon as the ground is covered with snow, operations will cease. They will be resumed again next spring as soon as conditions permit.



Navigator Bert Cornell indicates the Whitecourt-Athabasca flying strip.



From left to right: Ben Field, pilot, Navigator Doug Madden, and Pilot Bob Quigley check an Alberta map prior to take-off.

Alberta Government Photographs—Ross.



Members of the Alberta Industrial Development Board are shown above as their recent conference got underway in the council chambers at Lethbridge. Shown from left to right are: Alderman S. F. Scott, Medicine Hat; W. Anderson, Calgary industrial commissioner; W. H. Thomson, Director of the board; Hon. A. J. Hooke, minister of economic affairs; R. R. Moore, deputy minister of economic affairs and

board chairman; Mayor J. A. Jardine, Lethbridge; J. Gregory, industrial engineer research council and member of the advisory committee; Graham Curtis, Edmonton industrial commissioner; J. L. Kergan, Drumheller, and M. M. Cunningham, Red Deer.

Alberta Government Photograph—Mitanski.

Alberta Industrial Development Board Main Purpose of this Board is to Aid in the Establishment of New Industries

The Alberta Industrial Development Board was set up in 1946 under the guidance of the Department of Industries and Labor. In 1948 the board was transferred to the Department of Economic Affairs.

The board endeavours to aid in the development of Alberta's natural resources by assisting in the establishment of small or large new businesses or industries.

At least four board meetings are held each year with more called if necessary. In an effort to stimulate public interest the meetings are held at various centres in the Province. The meetings are informal and, in addition to the board members, are attended by the director of publicity and director of tourist travel, who assist with board work. The expenses of the meetings and travelling expenses of the members are paid by the government.

Co-operation with two organizations, the Alberta Research Council and the Alberta Industrial Corporation, is essential in the operation of the board.

With its staff of technicians the Research Council is able to give the board technical advice concerning an industry. The board also presents problems to the council for which they require information. The council experiments with mechanical and technical processes and informs the board whether they are suitable for adoption in Alberta. Information regarding raw materials is also given to the board by the council.

Industrial Corporation

The Alberta Industrial Corporation is a lending institution designed to financially assist new industry in the Province. If rigid investigation supports the application for financial assistance, this organization will loan money to persons starting new industries. The money must be repaid within a certain determined period. A potential client is first interviewed by the advisory committee of the corporation which makes recommendations to the corporation. There must be a need for the proposed industry within the Province before any loan is considered.

A wealth of general and technical knowledge must be maintained and definitely kept up-to-date in order to foster successful industrial development. Subsequently surveys of all or any natural resources of Alberta and the formulation of plans for their useful, economical, and orderly development, are among the board's duties. These duties were prescribed by the order in council which established it. To fulfil these duties maps showing industrial sites, public utilities, and transportation systems must be collected. These maps show too the selection of industries with reasonable prospect of success.

Free Exchange of Ideas

An important function of the Industrial Development Board is promotion of a free exchange of ideas. Such a facility is built up by contact with other organizations, institutions, and individuals engaged in similar types of enter-

prise. The contacts must include departments of the Dominion government, industrial commissioners at various levels, banks and trust companies. Chambers of commerce and boards of trade, research councils, mercantile agencies, industrialists, and others are also included.

This exchange of ideas is free in the most literal sense. There has never yet appeared any tendency to guard jealously the "secret" of any process or system likely to be of general benefit. Here is an example how the free exchange of ideas operates: There is a new industry almost ready to start in Alberta and the Alberta Industrial Development Board requires information relative to that industry. If a similar industry is operating in another province that government likely will have a great amount of experience from which the Provincial board is free to borrow. On the other hand the Alberta board may have access to information desired by other provinces. For example, the extraction of crude oil from bituminous sand.

It now is possible for the free exchange of ideas between Alberta and many centres in the United States. This is made possible through the board's association with the Midcontinental Council of Development Agencies, representing the Canadian Prairie Provinces and western Ontario, along with 12 midwestern States.

Many Functions

Proper operation of the Alberta board entails many functions. With an adequate card-index system the board can help a manufacturer seeking a location for his factory. A location may be suggested after considering the transportation of raw materials to the factory and shipments of the product to market. The board will determine where the markets exist—what competitors are already in the field—availability and cost of fuel—whether natural gas is present in the vicinity or if it could be run into the location. The board also will ascertain whether the municipality would be prepared to offer any subsidy in the way of free sites or tax rebates. It will reveal information concerning labor conditions, water supply, taxation, and climate.

If the board possesses facts on a certain resource it may go out and sell the idea of developing that natural resource. In this manner the Alberta Government, during the past two years, has assisted a number of industries to get established.

Many New Industries

To the end of September of this year 36 new industries had either started to build or had purchased property and made definite plans to establish firms in Alberta. This indicates an increase of 17 new industries compared with the same period of 1948. Thirty new industries were established and operating, or were under construction, in the Province during 1948. This made employment for 1,253 persons and represented capital expenditures of approximately \$31,876,000.

Industrial progress in Alberta has been good in 1949 and the prospects for the immediate future are bright. Negotiations are now being conducted with chemical plant representatives, pulp and paper mill operators, and representatives of plywood plants, calcium carbide plants, and chlorine and caustic soda plants.

Nine industries now located in Alberta have expanded their operations this year or have plans for expansion.

Chairman of the board, Ralph R. Moore, deputy minister of economic affairs and Director, W. H. Thomson, are appointed by the government. Remaining members of the board are nominated by various city councils. They are: Mayor J. A. Jardine, Lethbridge; Ald. S. F. Scott, Medicine Hat; Graham W. Curtis, Edmonton; William Anderson, Calgary; M. M. Cunningham, Red Deer and J. L. Kergan, Drumheller. * * *

A WITHIN OUR BORDERS PICTURE PAGE



Joan Newman, Edmonton, has her hand bandaged by Wilda Nelson, Cardston, under supervision of Mrs. M. Shaw, Calgary.



Instructress E. M. Saklofsky, Kelowna, helps Kay Enns, Purple Springs, dress baby.



Evelyne Esopenko, Smoky Lake, takes temperature of Peggy Staley, Cold Lake, as Miss L. Shantz, Calgary, advises.



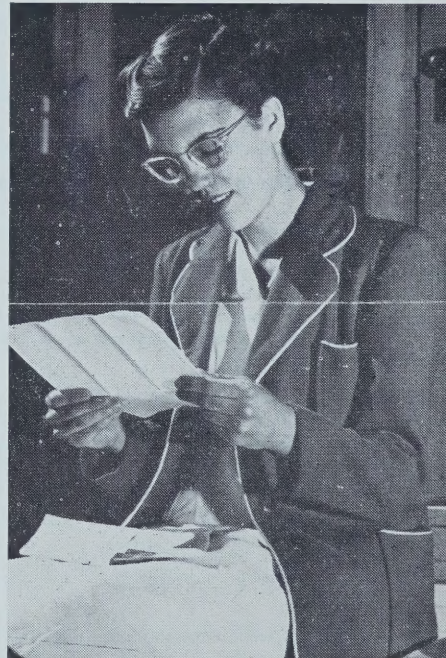
Jean Rutherford, Knee Hill Valley (front), and Donna Bremer, Rowley, utilize study period.

Train Nursing Aides At Calgary School

About 300 certified nursing aides have been trained at the School For Nursing Aides, Calgary, since the school was opened in January of 1946. The school is administered by the Alberta Department of Education and the Department of Health. Fifty percent of the cost of operation is paid by the Federal government.

The School for Nursing Aides is the first of its type in Canada. First students were exclusively ex-service women. In January of 1947, the course was opened up to all who could meet the requirements of age, education and health provided their application was approved by the regional director of Canadian Vocational Training.

Instruction offered at the school is designed to help those who desire to assist nurses and prepare them to work with members of the medical profession. Various subjects relative to nursing are included in the course. The instruction period covers twelve weeks. Following successful basic training the student is sent to three hospitals for an eight week period at each. After the hospital training the student returns to the school for final instruction and examinations. * * *



Rosemary Beckwell, of Cold Lake, enjoys a letter from home.



Student Charlotte Baerg, Acme, bakes with the aid of Miss L. Shantz, Calgary.



Katherine Ludtke, Medicine Hat, left, and Mrs. Mary Hanley, Calgary, check their marks.



Stella Chahley, Smoky Lake, demonstrates bedmaking. Alberta Government Photographs—Ros

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